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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 90023-Y

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

LEIF et al.

Serial No.: 10/010,597

Art Unit: 1654

Filed: December 6, 2001

Examiner: L. LEARY

For: REAGENT SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INCREASING THE
LUMINESCENCE OF LANTHANIDE (III) MACROCYCLIC
COMPLEXES

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action dated October 6, 2003. The three-month shortened statutory period for response is set to expire January 6, 2004. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed within the time period for reply set by the Examiner.

In view of the following remarks, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejection and allow all claims pending in this application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are currently pending in the present application. Applicants thank the Examiner for her indication that claims 1-17 are allowed. In view of the following arguments and comments, applicants respectfully assert that claims 18-24 are likewise in